

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
OMB-01 IO-13 TRSE-00 AID-05 EB-08 /091 W
-----061158 048592 /12

R 061058Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2438

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 3882

DEPT PLEASE PASS OAU COLLECTIVE AND ALL ARAB CAPITALS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PROG EG OAU XF
SUBJECT: AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT

REF: CAIRO 3875

SUMMARY: ARABS SAY ASSISTANCE TO AFRICA SHOULD BE USED MORE EFFECTIVELY AND QUESTION AFRICAN CAPACITY ABSORB INCREASED ASSISTANCE. AFRICANS RETORT AID SHOULD NOT BE TIED TO POLITICAL POSITIONS AND PIN RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEVELOPMENT ON ARABS. AFRICAN LIBERATIONS MOVEMENTS GIVEN 5 MILLION DOLLARS. POLITICAL DECLARATION APPROVED, WILL CALL FOR TIGHTENED "BLOCKADE" OF ISRAEL, SOUTH AFRICA, RHODESIA. SUMMIT SESSIONS BEGIN MARCH 7. END SUMMARY.

1. REPORTS OF MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS MARCH 5 SHOW MARKED DIFFERENCE IN APPROACH BETWEEN ARABS AND AFRICANS ON ASSISTANCE QUESTION AND SUGGEST POSSIBILITY OF SOME STRAINS DURING ACTUAL SUMMIT SESSIONS.

2. MAJOR NEWS ITEM WAS REPORT OF 10 POINT ARAB WORKING PAPER ON ASSISTANCE PRESENTED TO AFRICAN DELEGATIONS. COMMITTEE THAT PRODUCED DOCUMENT (SAUDI ARABIA, KUWAIT, JORDAN, CONFIDENTIAL

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ALGERIA, EGYPT, LIBYA, WITH ARAB LEAGUE FIRST ASST SYG NOFAL AND ARAB-AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK CHAIRMAN ATTENDING) TOOK INTO ACCOUNT "REAL NEEDS OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES...AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF OAPEC MEMBERS WHO ALREADY HAVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS UNDER WAY IN THEIR OWN COUNTRIES." EGYPTIAN FONMIN FAHMY SAID TO HAVE PROPOSED FOLLOWING GUIDING PRINCIPLES TO ARAB COMMITTEE:

--CONSOLIDATION OF ARAB-AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FUND IN KHARTOUM
AND RAISING OF ITS CAPITAL;

--IMMEDIATE, STREAMLINED ASSISTANCE TO AFRICAN LIBERATION
MOVEMENTS;

--ESTABLISHMENT OF SUITABLE FORMULA WHEREBY AID REQUESTED
BY AFRICANS MIGHT BE "INTELLEGENTLY DISCUSSED AND NOT CONFINED
MERELY TO INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS;"

--WORKING OUT JOINT FORMULA INCORPORATING PRINCIPLES CONTAINED
IN TANZANIAN WORKING PAPER, "WHICH CONTAINED SEVERAL IMPOR-
TANT IDEAS" ON ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL COOPERATION.

3. IN A TELLING REPORT, COMMITTEE SAID TO HAVE STUDIED
CAPACITY OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO ABSORB AID THEY ARE REQUESTING
AND TO HAVE CONCENTRATED "ON PRINCIPLES RANTHER THAN FIGURES
OF COOPERATION." ARAB LEAGUE SYG RIAD ALSO TOLD PRESS THAT
ARAB AID WOULD CONTINUE BUT THAT NO FIGURES HAD BEEN FIXED.
AMOUNTS WOULD BE DETERMINED IN LIGHT OF NEEDS SPECIFIEC BY
THE EIGHT EXECUTIVE JOINT COMMITTEES ON COOPERATION AND,
RIAD SUGGESTED, AID WOULD BE HENCEFORTH BE COLLECTIVE RATHER
THAN BILATERAL.

4. ARAB GROUP REPORTEDLY AGREED ON PRINCIPLES PROPOSED IN
SPITE OF UNDISCLOSED OBJECTIONS BY LEBYAN DELEGATION (PAPERS
REPORT FORMAL COMPLAINT BY LIBYANS TO MAJOR CAIRO DAILY
AHAM FOR PUBLICATION OF DETAILS OF PROPOSAL REJECTED BY
CONFERENCE MARCH 4. (SEE REFTEL) COMMITTEE FURTHER SAID TO
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HAVE RECOMMENDED CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO FINANCIAL SUPPORT
FOR FEASIBILITY STUDIES.

5. ANNOUNCEMENT FOLLOWED THAT AFRICAN LIBERATION GROUPS,
WHICH HAVE YET TO BE CLEARLY IDENTIFIED IN PUBLIC REPORTS,
WERE ALLOCATED SPECIFIC SUM OF 5 MILLION DOLLARS. IT NOT CLEAR
WHETHER THIS REPRESENTS TOTAL THEY WILL B ABLE TO EXTRACT FROM
SUMMIT PARTICIPATION, BUT THIS IS IMPRESSION WE GET.

6. AFRICAN REACTION TO ARAB INTENTIONS CLEARLY DYSPEPTIC.
AFRICAN GROUP HELD SEPARATE MEETING PRESIDED OVER BY TOGOLESE
FONMIN KODJO, WHO EMERGED TO DECLARE THAT "AFRICAN-ARAB CO-
OPERATION MUST NOT BE THE RESULT OR REWARD FOR ANY POLITICAL
POSTURES ASSUMED." AFRICAN COUNTRIES SHOULD REALIZE THAT ARAB
INVESTMENT CAN NOT BE CONFINED TO THEM, BUT "PROFIT RETURN
MUST BE TAKEN AS ONLY STANDARD OF EVALUATION OR ONLY INCENTIVE
FOR INVESTMENT." KODJO SAID THAT WHAT WAS NEEDED WAS
DECLARATION OF INTENTIONS WHICH WOULD ALLOW "MAJOR CONSTRUCTIVE
ACCOMPLISHMENTS" TO GET UNDER WAY. FIXING RESPONSIBILITY

ON ARABS, HE OBSERVED THAT AFRICA HAS POTENTIALLY GREAT AGRICULTURAL AND MINERAL WEALTH BUT "ALL THIS NEEDS FINANCIAL AID AND IT WOULD BE SELF-DECEPTION TO EXPECT THE TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCE COUNTRIES TO FURNISH IT."

7. POLITICAL DECLARATION HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN APPROVED "WITH SOME ADDITIONS" INCLUDING (PRESUMABLY ALGERIAN) CALL FOR TIGHTENED BLOCKADE OF ISRAEL, SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA AND ADDED "SUPPORT" FOR AFRICA, AFRICAN CONFRONTATION STATES IN PARTICULAR AND PLO. INTENTIONALLY OR NOT, AFRICAN LIBERATION GROUPS NOT MENTIONED IN THIS CONTEXT.

8. SUMMIT SESSIONS BEGIN MARCH 7 WITH ADDRESS BY SADAT THAT LIKELY TO DWELL ON AFRICA'S MORAL OBLIGATIONS TO STAND FIRMLY BEHIND ARABS ON MIDDLE EAST, ASSURE AFRICANS OF SHARED CONCERN FOR MAJORITY RULE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, CONFIRM TO ARABS THAT EGYPT, ABOVE ALL, NEEDS AND MERITS INTENSIFIED ASSISTANCE
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AND REMIND EVERYBODY THAT CAIRO IS EPICENTER OF AFRO-ARAB WORLD. PRESS IS STILL UNCLEAR AND VAGUE ON QUESTION OF ATTENDANCE BY CHIEFS OF STATE. MARCH 5 ARRIVALS INCLUDE YAR, TUNISIA (PRIMIN), MAURITANIA, IRAQ (VP), AND PLO CHAIRMAN. ONLY ARRIVALS IDENTIFIED FOR MARCH 6 ARE UAE, SYRIA, LEBANON AND QATAR. POSSIBILITY OF REASONABLY GOOD TURNOUT, HOWEVER, INDICATED BY ASSIGNMENT OF WHOLE EGYPTIAN CABINET TO DUTY AS GREETERS OF ARRIVING KINGS, PRESIDENTS AND WHATNOTS. SOME MINISTERS WILL BE MAKING AS MANY AS FOUR PAINFUL SHUTTLES TO AIRPORT. TWO HOTELS WHERE HEADS OF STATE ARE STAYING ARE NOW TOTALLY SEALED OFF EXCEPT TO THOSE WITH CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS INSIDE. TRAFFIC HAS BEEN DIVERTED FROM STREETS AROUND THESE HOTELS CAUSING NIGHTMARE TRAFFIC JAMS FOR CAIRO RESIDENTS. TEN MINUTE DRIVE FROM AMBASSADOR'S ZAMALEK RESIDENCE TO CHANCERY REQUIRED HOUR AND QUARTER YESTERDAY MORNING.
EILTS

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDEES.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SUMMIT MEETINGS, MEETING PROCEEDINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAIRO03882
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770077-0454
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770388/aaaacznk.tel
Line Count: 157
Litigation Code IDs:
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Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 CAIRO 3875
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3192777
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, EG, XF, XA, OAU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8eae12bd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009